

the SIGHT CENTER

A Service of the Toledo Society for the Blind

1819 Canton Street
Toledo, Ohio 43624
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Shaded area denotes
United Way membership

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Goerlich Award Winner



Much of Ann-Brita Page's work as a volunteer brailist is done on the personal computer in her home.

Ann-Brita Page Is Acclaimed for Distinguished Services

Ann-Brita Page, of Ottawa Hills, Ohio, a volunteer brailist and teacher, was named recipient of the 1987 John Goerlich Distinguished Service Award at the Sight Center's Volunteer Recognition Luncheon April 12.

It marked the second consecutive year the award has gone to a brailist.

The award is conferred at the discretion of the Sight Center's trustee board to honor those who have given extended, distinguished volunteer services, or who have made significant financial contributions, on behalf of the blind.

Nominating statements submitted by the Braille Sisterhood at Temple Shomer Emunim, Sylvania, said, in part,

"...In 1971, Ms. Page became a certified brailist. Though she has made a significant contribution by transcribing...textbooks and articles, she has demonstrated her commitment to the sightless even further by assuming the role of teacher.

"Each Tuesday, without fail, Ann provides tutelage to those aspiring to obtain certification as brailists. Typically, four or more persons in varying stages of skill and knowledge attend these weekly sessions.

"It is with endless patience that she explains, instructs, answers questions, corrects and praises to encourage all to

attain the goal of becoming a certified brailist.

"This unselfish gift will ultimately yield an increased service to the blind by making certain that others possess the requisite skills to competently transcribe materials."

"...In addition to her work for the blind, Ms. Page finds time to deliver 'Meals on Wheels,' and give book reviews at Pelham Manor. She has served

PREVIOUS HONOREES

John Goerlich 1983
Thomas R. Day 1984
Frank J. Lininger 1985
Alice N. Levey 1986

as president of the Sunset Home and as president of the Altar Guild of Hope Lutheran Church..."

Mrs. Page's tutor was Alice N. Levey, a former president of the Braille Sisterhood who received the Goerlich Award a year ago.

Mrs. Page recalled that her interest in the field was sparked by a letter from a blind woman that appeared on the editorial pages of the *Toledo Blade*. The woman had asked where she could obtain knitting instructions in braille.

"I'm a knitter," Mrs. Page said. "I thought, 'Wouldn't it be wonderful to

See: Award, P. 2

Five-Year Plan Emphasizes New Income, Revised Priorities

Significant income boosts, coupled with revised priorities for delivering agency services, are essential if the Sight Center is to be placed on a financially sound basis.

Such are the major conclusions in a plan for achieving agency goals over the next five years that was adopted in principle by the board of trustees in December.

The report recommended that higher priority be assigned to delivering services in those counties from which the Center receives funding.

It also called for stricter implementation of a fee schedule for clients who can afford to pay for all or part of the services they receive.

Existing services and programs should be reviewed to ascertain exactly how useful they are, the report advised. It also suggested that several new ones be considered. Among them were:

- Instituting day-care services here for elderly blind.
- Establishing an in-house low-vision clinic.
- Establishing a radio reading service.
- Expanding group recreation services such as day camps.
- Reorganizing the internal staff.

While the Center's mission remains essentially unchanged, adoption of the strategic plan marks the first time in decades that general agreement has been reached on how to go about fulfilling it, board president Gerald Hazel said.

"The plan was adopted in principle," he added. "Not all of its recommendations will necessarily be approved.

"As the Sight Center continues to evolve, the plan will be amended wherever needed to deal with changing circumstances."

Creation of the strategic plan was proposed last year by Dr. Douglas Austin, professor of finance in the University of Toledo's College of Business Administration, who is one of three blind members of the Sight Center's board.

The plan's contents were based on reviews of financial statements, agency reports, board minutes and other records, plus a perspective of current operations gathered by questionnaires and personal interviews with the Center's staff.

It was prepared by the university's Business Research Center.



Gerald Hazel Elected TSB's 4th President

Gerald V. Hazel was elected president of the Toledo Society for the Blind at the board of trustees' December, 1987, meeting.

He is the fourth person to hold that office in the agency's 65-year history.

Mr. Hazel succeeds William A. Marti, who had served as president since 1977. Mr. Marti now serves as board chairman.

Mr. Hazel, 57, is vice president and trust officer of Ohio Citizens Bank, Toledo. He is a lifelong resident of the Perrysburg area and a graduate of the University of Toledo. He also performed graduate study in banking at Rutgers University's Stonier Graduate School.

He is a Navy veteran of the Korean War, remaining in the naval reserve until retiring with the rank of captain in 1975.

He became a Sight Center trustee in December, 1983, and had served as board treasurer since 1984.

The late Edward E. Evans, one of agency's founders, was the board's first

See: President, P. 2

Three Director Positions Created in Staff Revamping

Reorganization of the Center's administrative structure was announced in March.

Changes include the creation of three director positions: Program Services/Personnel, Finance, and Marketing/Development.

"These moves will shift the bulk of staff supervision from me to the directors, thereby freeing my time for other activities, principally fund-raising," said executive director Barry McEwen.

"They will also relieve the controller's office of certain personnel and marketing functions that have historically been performed there, but which do not belong there, and will consolidate our marketing and development programs into a single department," Mr. McEwen said.

Donald A. Stevens, former director of marketing for Boysville of Michigan and auxiliary services manager for St. Anthony Villa, Toledo, was appointed Director-Program Services and Personnel March 21.



Stevens



Noel



Rothen



Thomas

Besides a direct service staff that currently numbers eight full-time and five part-time personnel, his supervisory responsibilities include the volunteer coordinator and driver. He will also serve as chief personnel officer.

Mr. Stevens, a Toledo native, holds a master's degree in social work from Ohio State University. His background includes extensive work in hospital environments and in agencies for the blind.

Paul R. Noel, who joined the agency in 1973 as office manager and has served as controller since 1980, was named Director-Finance.

John Rothen, the agency's marketing director since 1982, was named Director-Marketing and Development.

O&M Instructor, Others Are Added to Staff

Other staff changes include employment of a full-time orientation and mobility instructor, a full-time vision screener, two part-time vision screeners, and re-employment of a part-time client advocate.

A continuing backlog of clients awaiting orientation and mobility teaching prompted the employment in February of Meri Thomas, Mr. McEwen said. Her caseload will consist primarily of blind children.

Ms. Thomas, of Kalamazoo, MI, holds a bachelor of science degree in special education of the visually impaired and a master of arts degree in orientation and mobility, both from Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo.

She comes to the Center following two years as mobility instructor for the Lancaster County Association for the Blind, Lancaster, PA.

Norma Lampley, formerly a dispensing optician with Toledo optometrists Drs. Kahn and Diehl, joined the staff Feb. 8 as a vision screener in the prevention of blindness program. She replaces Judy Brooks, who resigned Dec. 31.

Ann Bushroe and Nancy Saunders, both seniors in the ophthalmic technician program at Michael J. Owens Technical College, were employed as part-time vision screeners in February.

Nancy Brock, the agency's client advocate from May, 1984, until last Dec. 31, when the position was terminated upon expiration of the three-year grant funding it, was re-employed March 28 with a grant from the Maumee Lions Club. She will work two days per week.

Looking Ahead

A study was conducted last year to analyze and appraise the current situation within the Sight Center, and to develop and recommend short and long-range goals for consideration by the board of directors.

Based on this study, the board has approved several short-term objectives which include an internal reorganization of the staff. The major change was the creation of a director of program services reporting to the executive director and responsible for the day-to-day operational management of the Sight Center. This will allow the executive director to focus more on increasing the public image and awareness of the agency, thereby enhancing funding sources.

From this beginning, the agency will broaden its focus on supplying quality service to an ever-increasing number of persons. As additional funding sources are developed and present sources are enhanced, the scope of services can be increased.

It will be the board's goal to work with the executive director to develop and refine longer-range goals and objectives that will enable the accomplishment of our mission to assist blind and visually impaired individuals to lead independent lives, to develop or retain vocational skills, and to adjust to the limitations imposed on them. The services provided by the Sight Center should also focus on the prevention of blindness and educational components in serving these individuals.

Gerald V. Hazel, President
The Toledo Society for the Blind

AA's Pay Their Own Way

The good work of Alcoholics Anonymous is well known. Since its establishment in the 1930's, it has reclaimed millions of lives headed for ruin.

Less well known is its members' determination to pay their own way at all times. The Kapp Hall AA group, which meets regularly at the Sight Center, pays minimal rent for using our auditorium/cafeteria. But by conservative estimate, its members have donated at least \$30,000 to this agency in the past 10 years.

One man led the way by assigning his United Way pledge to the Sight Center. Others soon followed suit—but always on an individual basis, because Alcoholics Anonymous, as a world-wide organization, neither endorses nor opposes any causes but its own.

The group takes its name from the place where it was organized in 1941, in rooms entitled "Kapp Hall" above the former Fair Store at Adams and Summit Streets in downtown Toledo, across from what it now Portside. That identity was carried along when the group moved its meeting place in 1950 to the old Toledo Society for the Blind headquarters at 718 Michigan Street, then into this building in 1956.

Their support of this agency doesn't always come in the form of pledges via the United Way donor option. When they notice things that need repair or replacement, they discuss it among themselves, then do what is within their means.

The coffee you drink at Happy Times, Family Night, Volunteer Recognition luncheon and other occasions is brewed in an urn the Kapp Hall group bought. No one asked them to do it. They just did it, and said nothing. Food cans are opened with the automatic opener they installed in the kitchen.

There's more, but the point is that AA members are more than self-sustaining; they contribute to community betterment in many ways. The Kapp Hall members didn't ask for this acknowledgement of their support. We just thought you'd like to know.

"Your Sight Center" Leaves Airwaves; Return Uncertain

June 6 marked the final spring broadcast of the "Your Sight Center" on the Air." The weekly half-hour program of news, interviews, music and matters of interest to the blind has been heard for several years over WAMP-FM (88.3 meg.), Scott High School's broadcast journalism station, which has donated its facilities as a public service.

Whether the show will resume broadcasting in September depends on how soon the Center is able to begin operating its own radio reading service.

Award (from P. 1)

be able to help provide the knowledge for that skill for people who can't see."

In the years since her certification by the Library of Congress, she has spent

President (from P. 1)

president, serving from 1927 to 1957. He was succeeded by John Goerlich, who served from 1957 to 1977.

Mr. Goerlich, who had served as board chairman since 1977, was named voting position.

Thomas R. Day was re-elected vice president, a position he has held since 1979.

Douglas V. Austin was elected treasurer, replacing Mr. Hazel. Mary M. Krueger was re-elected secretary.

Under new rules adopted by the board, Mr. Hazel and all future agency presidents will be limited to a maximum of three two-year terms in office.

an estimated 4,000 hours creating or proof-reading brailled copy, most of it on Braille Level 2, where the demand is heaviest.

THE TOLEDO SOCIETY FOR THE BLIND

The Sight Center Newsletter is published by The Toledo Society for the Blind, a United Way member agency in Lucas, Wood, Ottawa, Henry and Sandusky Counties, Ohio, and Monroe County, Michigan.

Materials contained herein may be reprinted providing credit is given.

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The Sign Post

Top Volunteer



Henry Nelson, who has volunteered his services to the blind for 20 years, received a mug, volunteer pin, and while carnation to go along with a hug from volunteer coordinator Madge Levinson.

Dana A. Johnson, director of marketing and sales for WestCenter, Toledo, was elected a Sight Center trustee at the board's April meeting. Her election leaves the board one short of its authorized strength of 21.

Sixteen-year-old Guy Schlosser, of Waterville-Neapolis Road, Whitehouse, was recently awarded a varsity letter in wrestling, and a chevron for participating in track, at the Ohio State School for the Blind, Columbus, where he will be a junior next fall.

Marvin Heminger, a former Toledoan and Sight Center client who now makes his home near Hudson, MI, in Lenawee County, was given special recognition for scholastic achievement last year by the Hadley School for the Blind, Winnetka, IL. He was feted at a dinner there a the school's outstanding braille student of 1987. Since losing his sight in 1979 when a virus attacked his optic nerves, he has completed eight courses in braille study through the Hadley School.

Mia Arden, a graduate student from DeKalb University, Illinois, is performing a six-month internship here as rehabilitation teacher and orientation and mobility instructor.

Another DeKalb graduate student, Barbara Zuwała, completed a three-month internship in rehabilitation teaching in May.

T-shirts from the Sight Center's Rally by the River last July are available from the aids and appliances office for \$5 apiece in sizes small, large, and extra-large. Each of the commemorative shirts bears its own, limited-edition number.

The Toledo Society for the Blind does not engage in telephone sales or door-to-door sales. It neither endorses nor discourages the sale, by profit-making organizations, of products purportedly made by blind people.

The Sight Center will be host agency for the 1988 conference of the National Association of Vision Professionals next Aug. 17-20 at the Sofitel Hotel (or its successor name) in Toledo.

If you are receiving more than one copy of this Newsletter, or if you would like to have your name or someone else's added to our mailing list, please contact the Sight Center so that duplications may be removed and new names added.

Blind Entertainer Jim Huff Receives H. L. Morse Award

Blind entertainer James Huff was honored by the United Way of Greater Toledo in March as one of three recipients of the 1987 Henry L. Morse Community Services Award.

The award is given annually in recognition of outstanding volunteer services.

Mr. Huff, a former Toledoan who now lives in Ellenton, FL, was honored for the dozens of educational talks on blindness he has given to school children and other groups since losing his sight in 1977.

Utilizing his skills as magician, balloon sculptor and raconteur, he punctuates his talks with illusions he learned to perform after becoming totally blind from diabetes insipidus.

He is usually accompanied by his Golden Labrador Retriever, "E.K." Together, they demonstrate the teamwork between master and guide dog that is essential for safe travel.

Mr. Huff is the second Sight Center volunteer to be chosen a Henry L. Morse award winner in the three years since the award was created.

Henry G. Nelson was similarly honored two years ago for a career in volunteer services that covers several decades and includes many forms of service, including of taping of hundreds of textbooks for blind students.

This year's other winners were Barbara Reifeis, whose volunteer services cover a 35-year span, most recently as a labor room coach with Toledo Crittenton Services, and Jean Youngen, former board president and long-time volunteer for the Visiting Nurse Service of the Toledo District Nurses Association.

Macular Degeneration

Macular degeneration is now the most common cause of sight loss among Americans over 65.

Volunteer Corps Registered 11,176 Hours of Service in '87

More than 100 volunteer workers and staff members gathered here for lunch April 12 to recognize the contributions of 1987's volunteer corps.

In all, 575 agency volunteers contributed 11,176 hours of their time and skills last year.

The tasks they performed ranged from stuffing envelopes at mass mailings to transporting blind people to doctors' offices or supermarkets, from reading mail to the blind at home to repairing Talking Book machines, from operating bingo games to selling tickets or beer at the Rally by the River, from serving on the board of trustees to selling donated merchandise at the agency's garage sale.

Henry G. Nelson, of Waterville, was singled out for special recognition for contributing more than 600 hours last year.

Mr. Nelson, who will be 82 in August, served as a driver, taper of college texts, and clerical worker. He has been taping texts for blind college students since 1969.

Those recognized for contributing over 400 hours were Larry Barnes, Toledo, Nancy Burton, Perrysburg, and Norma Shappell, Lima.

Volunteers who contributed more than 100 hours were Kathy Oatis, Mary Frances Klein, Doris Huether, Marjorie Owings, Ann Smith, Judy Williamson, Ethel Lewis, Phil Podlish, Doris



Enthusiastic applause accompanied the brass clock given to Jim Huff by Leta Doneghy, of the H. L. Morse Community Services Award committee, as a symbol of his voluntary service. The Sight Center's volunteer coordinator, Madge Levinson and Robert Carlie, chairman of the United Way trustee board, standing, and Chris Kolaskinski, seated, director of the UW's Voluntary Action Center, joined in.

Sight Center Trustee Mary Hamilton Honored

Mary K. Hamilton, who joined the Sight Center's trustee board last June, was recently named Distinguished Toledo Lawyer for 1988.

The award is given jointly by the Toledo Bar Association and the University of Toledo College of Law's Alumni

Association.

Mrs. Hamilton, who is Vice President-Personal Trusts of First National Bank, Toledo, is a graduate of Simmons College (B.S.), and Toledo University's College of Law (J.D.).

Browns Romp, 102-69

Benefit Basketball Game Raises \$4,500

It was a laughter all the way. And the crowd loved it.

When the final buzzer mercifully sounded, the Cleveland Browns traveling basketball squad had out-run, out-jumped, out-passed, out-maneuvered and out-scored a composite team of television and radio personalities from WTVG Channel 13 and WKKO-K100 Radio, Toledo, by a score of 102-69.

It could just as easily have been 202-69. But no one went home angry. In fact, just about everyone stayed for the finish.

The game, played at the University of Toledo's Centennial Hall April 1, was sponsored by the Toledo Host Lions Club, with the cooperation of Channel 13 and K-100, as a fund-raiser for the Sight Center.



An estimated 3,500 spectators turned out—about the same as for a similar game a year ago—but net proceeds this year totalled \$4,549, nearly double the 1987 figure, according to Barry Brandt, Lions Club president.

Ticket sales were augmented by a post-game drawing for donated prizes. Toledoan Duane Brown took home a portable black-and-white television set donated by WTVG.

James Grime, Archbold, won the the professional-quality basketball donated by Brendamour's, Inc., and autographed by players from both squads.

An autographed, pro-quality football, also donated by Brendamour's, was won by Northwood resident Matt Clarkson.

A Home Team Monopoly game went to Sylvania resident Robert Harkless. Toledans Gary Cron and Fouad

(Photos Courtesy of Jim Novak, WTVG Channel 13)

Getting off a downcourt pass despite heavy pressure from a leaping Reggie Langhorne is Jerry Anderson, left. The Brown's Mike Pagel watched.

Right: Pam Rumpf, standing, and Jack Mitchell, center, of K-100, and Brenda Hines, far right, of WTVG Channel 13, conducted the prize drawings.



Obeid each won a set of four Channel 13 mugs.

The winner of a large portable radio donated by K-100 was unidentified.

Playing for the Browns were Sam Clancy, Reggie Langhorne, Dan Fike, Mike Pagel, Glen Young, Steve Bullitt, Jeff Jaeger and Derrick Tunnell.

Representatives from K-100 included Jack Mitchell and Mary Beth Zoilk—who also did the announcing—Larry Jewett, Wendy Sheridan, Jay Richards, Pam Rumpf, and Dave Conrad.

Jerry Anderson, Brenda Hines, Michael Reghi, Bob Smith, Brian Jagodzinski, Ed Domansky, Dan Tyburski, Rod Brandt, Tony Venezia and Monty King represented Channel 13.

Bob Bassett, president of the Northwest Ohio Browns Backers, also suited up with the media team.



Sam Clancy, the Brown's 6-foot, 7-inch, 260-pound defensive end, had the basket to himself as he scored with a reverse slam dunk. All Dave Conrad, left, Bob Bassett, center, and Chris Cook could do was watch.



Right: Players from both teams circulated through the audience at half-time autographing programs. This unidentified lad came away with Dan Fike's signature on his.



Above: Lions Club president Barry Brandt stuffed a supply of raffle tickets brought in by club member Debbie Pezzin, left, into the drum as executive director Barry McEwen watched.

Play was suspended temporarily, right, until Chris Cook and referee Scott Foor found a contact lens that had popped out of Chris's eye.





Her face close to the mirror so that she can see her own image, too, Danielle uses her left eye to track the ball dangled by Mary Scheuer as Mrs. Budin pays close attention.

Vision Stimulation Program Saves, Improves Tot's Sight

When Danielle Roberts was two months old, her parents, Jeff and Sandra Budin, noticed that she did not seem to respond normally to visual stimuli.

"She kept her head down all the time," Mrs. Budin said. "If Jeff or I lifted it, she would begin crying."

"But it seemed to be a cry of frustration, rather than pain."

Medical examination confirmed their suspicion: Danielle suffered from hypoplasia (underdevelopment) of the optic nerves, able only to see hand motions with the left eye.

There was no appreciable sight in the right eye.

Her problem was compounded by nystagmus, an involuntary, rapid and rhythmical movement of the eyes.

Her right eye was crossed. Amblyopia (lazy eye) was also suspected.

Until the development of vision stimulation programs for infants, a child so afflicted would almost certainly have lost what sight was present.

Since last October, children's specialist Mary Scheuer has been working with Danielle and her parents regularly, coaxing, teasing, almost *charming* her into moving her eyes and strengthening her sight.

Between visits, the Budins repeated the stimulation procedures several hours each week.

Improvement was soon noted.

"Danny is doing very well," Ms. Scheuer noted in a November report.

"She is starting to explore. She sees objects now, instead of just lights, and is starting to crawl."

Diabetic Retinopathy

Statistically, glaucoma remains the No. 1 cause of blindness in the United States, but diabetic retinopathy is the leading cause of *new* blindness, followed by macular degeneration. Diabetics are 25 times more prone to blindness than nondiabetics.

Sophisticated Surgery Creates New, Living Lens in Cornea

A surgical procedure using donor corneal tissue that has been frozen, then ground on a lathe before being sewn into the patient's eye, is finding growing favor among American ophthalmologists.

Epikeratophakia is particularly effective in remedying severe myopia (nearsightedness), hyperopia (farsightedness) and aphakia (absence of a natural lens in the eye), according to Dr. Bruce Newman, of Bryan, who utilizes it in his practice.

It is also useful for correcting astigmatism, including a severe form called keratoconus, and can be used as a patch in treating corneal punctures.

The technique, known as "epi," for short, takes its name from Greek: epi (on top of), kerato (cornea) and phakia (lens).

It has been performed hundreds of times in the United States since first performed by Dr. Leo Boers in Houston nine years ago, Dr. Newman said.

He described it as a variation on another widely-used procedure, radial keratotomy, which reduces certain sight problems by cutting and re-shaping the patient's own cornea.

While epikeratophakia is still being refined and improved, it is a much safer procedure than radial keratotomy because there is no need to go into the eye, Dr. Newman said.

Whittier Second-Graders Demonstrate Their Skill in the Social Graces

When it comes to the social graces, the second-graders in Gerie Di Matteo's room at Toledo's Whittier Elementary School know how to say a meaningful "Thank you."

Twenty-four of them recently composed a hand-printed, four-page letter measuring 18 by 12 inches to Toledo entertainer James Huff—"The Amazing Jimmie Lee"—giving their reactions to his guest talk on blindness, and the role of his guide dog, "E.K." Unfortunately, it's not possible to reproduce their bold, colorful crayon work here, but here are their verbatim comments:

Dear Amazing Jimmie Lee,

The children from Whittier School and Miss Di Matteo would like to express our thanks for:

"Taking the time to come to school."

Jennifer Engle.

"Helping us learn more about the blind." Kenneth Incorvaia.

"Telling us about braille." Richard Griffin.

"Telling us about yourself." Love,

David.

"Telling us you drove a truck." Angie Beavers.

To the Amazing Jimmy Lee! From: Russell Baltes. "Telling us you weren't blind all your life."

"Coming to be with us." Ursula Garcia.

Only a handful of Ohio ophthalmologists currently perform epikeratophakia, he added.

"Older ophthalmologists tend to avoid it. Much more pre-operative preparation is required."

As the donor tissue, known as the lenticule, is sewn into place, the surgeon uses slip-knots to adjust tension on each suture to give the cornea its desired shape.

Rejection of the frozen tissue is not a problem, Dr. Newman added; the patient's own corneal cells "migrate" into and replace the lenticule in the months following surgery.

In effect, the new cornea functions as a living lens.

"It eliminates the need for contact lenses, but it rarely enables the patient to do without eyeglasses completely," he cautioned.

"The expected result is that the patient will be able to wear thinner glasses, perhaps those only part-time.

"This is not a cosmetic surgery," he stressed. "It is a functional one."

"Epikeratophakia, like any surgery, is not without risk," Dr. Newman added. "But far more people have lost their sight to complications from wearing contact lenses than from epi."

Perhaps its greatest advantage is its complete reversibility, Dr. Newman pointed out.

If necessary, the lenticule can be replaced, or simply removed.

While nearly all cases of myopia or hyperopia could be improved with epikeratophakia, the surgery is generally reserved for patients with severe sight problems.

It takes about an hour and is usually done under a local anesthetic. Patients experience only moderate discomfort, sometimes being able to return to work within a week.

Sutures are usually removed in four to eight weeks. Most patients gain maximum improvement in their sight shortly thereafter.

Costs run about \$2,700, including the \$700 price tag for the donor tissue, Dr. Newman said. Epikeratophakia has been recognized by Medicare, which will pay a percentage of the costs for people enrolled in that program.

Dr. Newman said he utilizes two sources of supply for donor tissues, the primary one being Cryo-Optics, Houston, TX, where, coincidentally, they are ground to their computer-generated specifications by a former Toledoan, David Martin.

The other source is American Medical Optics, New Orleans, LA.

Blindness Statistics

Approximately half of all legally blind people are over 65 years of age.

Each year nearly 180,000 school children in the United States suffer eye injuries, the great majority of which could be prevented by proper-fitting eye safety wear.

Covert Threats to Sight:

Cats, Bats, and Under-Cooked Meat

Cats have a way of arousing strong feelings.

Criticize them in the presence of someone who is attached to one and you may have a fight on your hands.

The ancient Egyptians revered them.

Most bird fanciers don't want them around.

Fastidious housekeepers deplore their quiet movements and climbing and jumping ability that enables them to get on tables and other places where food is kept—paw-marks often serving as the only evidence of a sneak visit.

Some people are violently allergic to cats.

Certain breeds are notorious for the great quantities of hair they shed.

Some develop great bellyaches from fur balls.

They make an unholy racket when fighting with other cats.

It's common knowledge that they consort with witches and warlocks. How else could it be bad luck for a black cat to cross one's path?

O.K. So you aren't superstitious. And you don't mind fur balls or loud mating quarrels.

Surely you know that there are millions of irritated dog owners around, smoldering because they have to buy licenses for their animals, while cat owners don't.

And then there are people who detest cats for no justifiable reason.

Before anyone accuses the Sight Center of being biased against cats, let us set the record straight:

We're not.

As a matter of fact, several staff members and many of our volunteers keep them as pets. But they *are* a source of concern for the threat they represent to the sight of a developing fetus.

Cats abound in this country. You can have one for the asking.

A lean, hungry tom for rodent control? Or a cute, cuddly kitten?

If you're the parent of a small child, you needn't visit the animal shelter, nor search the classified ads, nor even look for signs along the highway offering kittens for adoption, because you can be as certain of the scenario that follows as you are of the sun rising in the east:

One day, your child will burst through the door, eyes aglow and trembling with excitement, to announce that a "free" kitten is available.

What is a parent to do? It might help to ask, "just how free are they, all of these wanted and unwanted cats?" and pass the answers along to along to the child.

The veterinarian can give a cost estimate on shots, spaying, neutering, etc.

Cat food producers and purveyors of kitty litter, litter boxes and the like will gladly take your money.

Your friendly vermin exterminator will



Kitty's pretty — but is she clean?

quote a price for ridding the house of fleas.

And if you're an expectant mother, or likely to become one, your obstetrician and future pediatrician will give you a medical opinion.

House cats harbor *Toxoplasmosis gondii*, a single-celled parasite found all over the United States but especially prevalent in states bordering the Ohio and Mississippi River Valleys.

About half of all Americans, including 25 to 40 per cent of the women of child-bearing age, are immune to toxoplasmosis, having developed anti-bodies against it after being exposed.

Cat feces are a primary source of infection. Oocysts, the infectious stage of the parasite, develop in the cat's intestines. Later, the oocysts are deposited in the litter box or on the ground.

Repulsive as it may sound, the victim contracts the disease by getting the oocysts on the hands, then transferring them to the mouth.

When an adult human develops toxoplasmosis, there may be no symptoms at all. Or symptoms could vary from those of a mild cold to fever, aching muscles, rash and pneumonia.

But it is an even more serious matter for a woman who contracts it shortly before, or during, pregnancy.

She risks miscarriage, stillbirth, or death of the child soon after birth, or congenital blindness, pneumonia, encephalitis, mental retardation, and/or heart disease if the child survives.

In some cases, an infected newborn may seem normal but suffer complications, including blindness, as much as 10 years later.

The earlier in the pregnancy the mother is infected, the greater the probability of damage to the infant.

Litter boxes are obvious danger spots. But so are garden areas, where an unwary expectant mother could become infected by working bare-handed in the soil.

The parasite can also be spread through bat droppings.

Proper hygiene and personal sanitation will greatly reduce the danger of acquiring toxoplasmosis.

Emptying and disinfecting the litter box daily is a chore that should be assigned to non-pregnant members of the household.

You can have your cat immunized. But that provides no protection from strays, especially if they visit your flower or vegetable garden.

Moreover, cat and bat droppings are not the only source of infection.

"Beware of pink pork" is an admo-

nition that has been passed from generation to generation for thousands of years, the concern being that pork may be infected with the trichina parasite, which causes trichinosis.

There is no cure for trichinosis. The parasite lodges in muscle tissue, including the heart, and weakens it.

But trichinosis is relatively rare in the United States nowadays, largely because of caution in cooking pork, and because U.S. pork producers have been working toward packing meat certified as trichina-free.

The unfortunate result, however, has been growth of complacency among some people when cooking and eating pork. Recently, some commercial pork cuts have been shown to contain *Toxoplasmosis gondii*.

Hamburger mixed with pork when grinding sausage may also contain the parasite.

But like the trichina, it can be killed by thorough cooking of the meat. Other suggestions:

- Wash hands immediately and thoroughly after handling raw meat.
- Don't eat undercooked meat.
- Clean fresh vegetables and fruit before eating them.
- Don't eat undercooked meat.
- Keep the children's sandbox covered when they aren't playing in it.
- Don't eat undercooked meat.
- Wear gloves when gardening.
- Don't feed your cat raw or undercooked meat.
- Don't eat undercooked meat.
- Don't take in a new cat whose health history is unknown to you.
- Don't eat undercooked meat.
- Have the veterinarian test your cat for toxoplasmosis.
- Have yourself tested to see whether you are immune.
- Don't eat undercooked meat.

Blind Biker Sets Sights on Moscow

Sanduskian Jodi Myers, who has toured Holland twice via tandem bike, departed May 20 on a far more ambitious trip when she bicycled off from London's Trafalgar Square enroute to MOSCOW. Her timetable requires her to average 70 miles a day in order to reach the Russian capital by June 22.

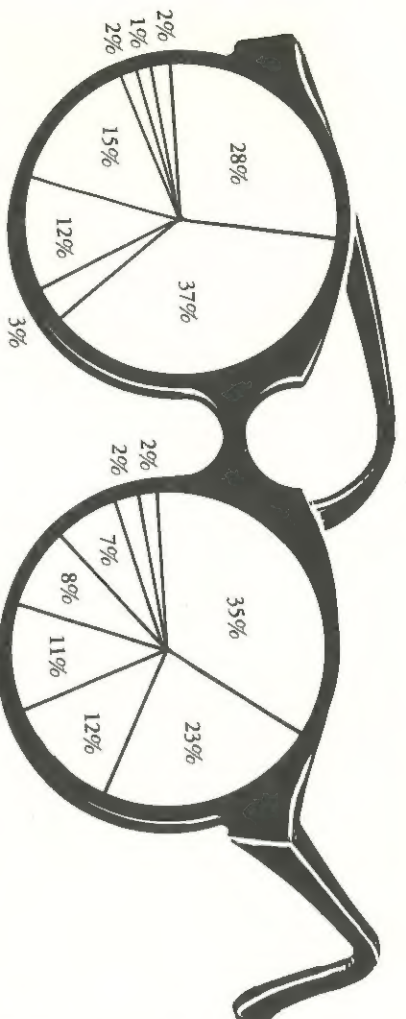
In between, she and the other 22 bikers in the tour group will traverse seven nations: England, Holland, Belgium, West Germany, Czechoslovakia, Poland and Russia, covering all kinds of terrain, including mountains, in all kinds of weather and through widely-varying political climates.

Jodi, the only sightless member of the group, is participating by special invitation from the sponsors, International Bike Tours. After a two-day tour of Moscow, she will return to the United States by air.

1987 Annual Report

The Toledo Society for the Blind

INCOME **EXPENSES**



SERVICES RENDERED

New referrals to social services	1987	1986
Clients receiving rehabilitation teaching.....	274	331
Clients receiving orientation and mobility training	93	157
Talking Book machines in clients' homes	103	119
Pre-school vision screenings	2,628	2,533
School-age vision screenings	2,045	6,432
Adult glaucoma/visual acuity screenings	20,534	12,349
Persons served, Community Medical Eye Clinic.....	2,793	5,607
Persons served, Community Eye Clinic.....	329	327
Clinic Opticians.....	328	314
Other sight conservation services	400	474
Hours taping books, articles, and misc.....	887	1,237

United Way	28%	Rehabilitation	35%
Public support	37%	General & admin.	23%
Bequests	3%	Sight conservation	12%
Investments/rentals	12%	Fund-raising	11%
Fees/grants	15%	Public education	8%
Aids & appliance sales	2%	Aids & appliances	7%
Christmas cards and misc.	1%	Volunteers	2%
Rally by the River	2%	Radio Reading Service	2%

Statements of Support, Revenue and Expenses Years Ended December 31, 1987 and 1986

Support and Revenue	1987	1986
Public contributions	\$ 182,298	\$ 98,744
Capital campaign	14,685	679,612
Bequests	20,352	16,030
Grants:		

Grants:

Government	12,000	5,000
Other	4,650	6,300
Donated services	45,990	48,276
Memorials	5,074	8,497
United Way of Greater Toledo	185,000	185,000
United Way of Henry County	6,700	6,400
Fees from government agencies	92,350	66,678
Sales of aids and appliances	13,412	7,934
Investment income	31,143	25,854
Oil royalty income	21,320	23,217
Rental income, net of related costs	26,409	31,827
Rally by the River, net of related costs	11,825	—
Christmas cards, net of related costs	1,696	3,661
Other	6,325	7,337
Total support and revenue	\$ 681,229	\$ 1,220,367

Expenses

Program services:

Aids and appliances	\$ 50,782	\$ 36,822
Rehabilitation	239,535	236,415
Sight conservation	82,784	68,777
Radio reading and information services	14,622	13,475
Total program services	\$ 387,723	\$ 342,014

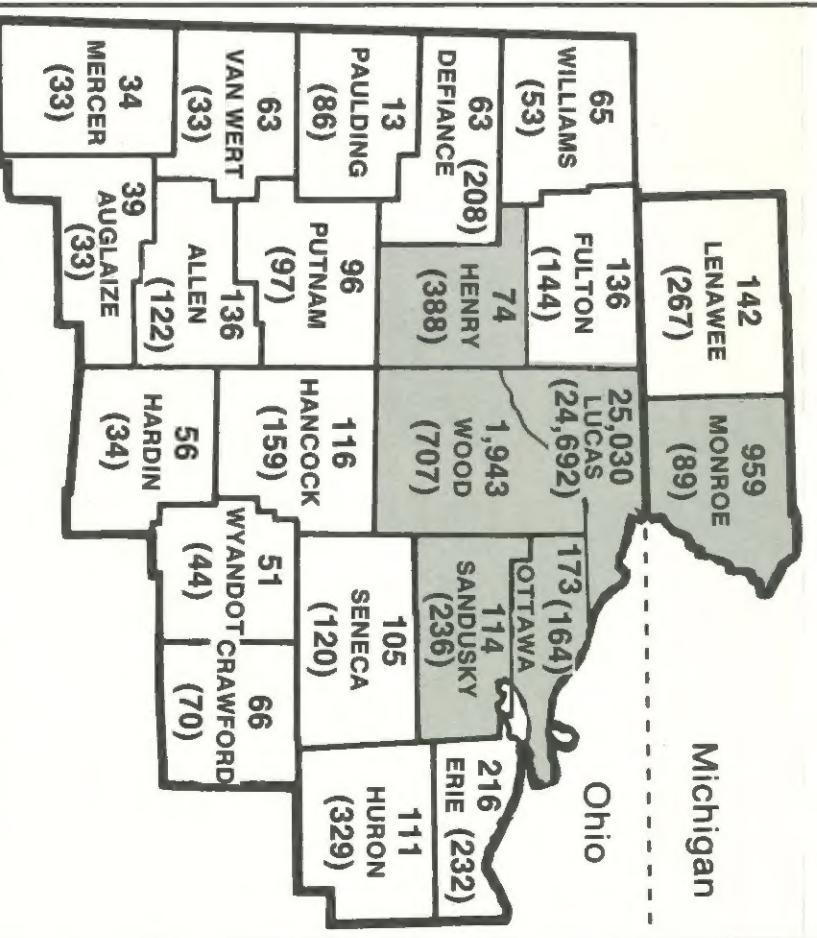
Supporting services:

Fund raising	\$ 72,688	\$ 162,275
Public education.....	55,147	50,233
Volunteers	14,288	16,149
General and administrative	155,207	156,703
Total supporting services	297,630	385,630
Total expenses.....	685,353	727,374
Excess (deficiency) of support and revenue over expenses.....	\$ (4,124)	\$ 492,933

The above information is a summary of the operations of the Toledo Society for the Blind taken from the Society's audited financial statements for the year ended December 31, 1987.

Such information does not include balance sheets, statements of changes in fund balances, or notes to financial statements necessary for presentation of financial information in conformity with generally accepted accounting principles. The Society's audited financial statements are available at the Society's offices.

Where We Served



The county-by-county distribution of Sight Center services for 1987 is shown here, with comparative figures for 1986 in parentheses. Totals include persons participating in the Talking Book program, those screened in the Prevention of Blindness program, and those who received direct services such as orientation and mobility training, rehabilitation teaching, and social services.

Talking Book services in Monroe and Lenawee Counties, Michigan, are provided by a Michigan agency.

Shaded counties are those in which the Sight Center is a United Way member.

* Totals must be approximated due to overlapping in services to individual clients, i.e., many given orientation and mobility training also received rehabilitation teaching, Talking Books, counseling, etc.

Memorial Contributions

A permanent record is made of memorial contributions and other gifts to the Sight Center. Memorials are promptly acknowledged in accordance with the wishes of the contributor. The following is a list of memorials, gifts in honor of others, and bequests received by the Sight Center from Nov. 1, 1987, through March 31, 1988.

- Rosezella Ball, by Robert Ball; Bascom E.M.S.; Winifred Camicom; Marge Scott, Sharon and Family; Mr. and Mrs. Ben White.
- Mary Becker, by Mrs. Dorothy Brown; Mrs. Phyllis Henry; Mrs. Irene Hutchison; Olive E. Station.
- Robert L. Berger, Jr., by Mr. and Mrs. Fern E. Miller.
- Husband of Mrs. Sidney Bernstein, by Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Basch.
- G. A. Blaine, by Mr. and Mrs. Willard H. Joslin.
- Laura Bleim, by Daniel W. Camp, Sr.
- Ruth Brucere, by Mr. and Mrs. Ray Washing.
- Rinold Burtchart, by Mrs. Ida Walbecker; Mrs. Ruth Gradwohl.
- Irene Burnep, by Mr. and Mrs. Roy Wintermantel.
- Frank Coffin, by Rose Watkins.
- Deceased family, by Fred and Bernadine Miller.
- Deceased family members, by Leah S. Epstein.
- Timothy Dennis, by Mrs. Patricia Dennis.
- Donald Derenge, by Barry A. and Cathy S. McEwen.
- Maude E. Dorn-Fitzgerald, by The Temple Sisterhood.
- Crystal Draheim, by Dr. and Mrs. James A. Blanchard; Mr. and Mrs. James Chandler, Jr.; Mr. and Mrs. Richard L. Corrigan; Ruth E. Grimsley; Mrs. Alma Hoffman and Family; Dr. Jack Kahn; Kathryn Kelley; Barry A. and Cathy S. McEwen; Mercedes Schoen and Virginia Schoen Poling; The W. Shank Family; Harold and Dess Smith; Virginia Whitniter; Dr. and Mrs. Robert L. Willard.
- Joseph Duszynski, by Mr. and Mrs. John Burton; Madge Levinson; Barry A. and Cathy S. McEwen; John Rohen.
- Kent C. Eley, by Jane L. Eley.
- Jane Evans, by Mr. and Mrs. John O. Metzger; Mr. and Mrs. Mark Metzger; Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Metzger.
- Sister of Mrs. Yale Feniger, by Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Basch.
- Robert B. Ferrel, by Mrs. Emma Claus, Teresa Parachek, and Mrs. Esther Wilhelm.
- Jack Finnegan, by Mary M. Lininger.
- Walter A. Gogel, by Mrs. Ruth P. Gogel.
- Lucille Gorsalski, by Mrs. Mary Butkowski; Victor Butkowski; Sam and Pat Copus; Mr. and Mrs. Don Dippman; Mr. and Mrs. F. A. Dohms, and Mrs. and Mrs. Paul Slych and Boys; Mrs. Angie Dunn; Betty and Mark Foreman; Dr. and Mrs. Dale Jacoby; Mrs. Fern Martin; Mr. and Mrs. Barry Ramlow; Mr. and Mrs. Stanley Salsak; Eileen L. Wartick.
- Mrs. Earl Grebe, by Roy and Louise Collins.
- N. May "Polly" Griebe, by Lois M. Bender; Barbara Eryant; Mr. and Mrs. Paul A. Ericson; Renee Greene; Mary Kleppinger; R.F.D. Assoc.; Elizabeth G. Rimer; Mr. and Lester E. Smith.
- Polly Griebe, by Harry and Joan Loehnte.
- Helen Harpst, by June and Meart Huffman.
- Mrs. Helen Harpst, Dr. and Mrs. G. W. Sutherland.
- Myrtle Henricks, by Phyllis Damschroeder.
- Gerald Horenstein, by Barry A. and Cathy S. McEwen.
- Bette Hunter, by Rose Watkins.
- William Jarzynski, by Mr. and Mrs. Clayton E. Reed.
- Walter Jaworski, Sr., by Glenn and Marge Beck; Jenny and David Bowling; Mr. and Mrs. R. De Armoud; Don Hutton; George and Dorothea Mockensum; Dr. and Mrs. Sam Schaeffer; Barbara J. Schultz; Robert C. Simons.
- Isabel Joyce, by Benzo and Carolyn Maraldo.
- Gloria Kleis, by Eirella Blair.
- James LaDuc, by Mrs. Erma F. Sansey.
- Anna Langenderfer, by Mr. and Mrs. Leonard Skbinski.
- Charles Leiter, by Mrs. Velma Bogart, and Phyllis and Michael Bogart.
- Dr. Elmina Lucke, by Charles Trauger.
- Kathleen McDevitt, by Mary F. McParland; Mrs. Herman R. Miller.
- Harold McFarland, by Northwest Ohio Association of Licensed Opticians.
- James T. McGuire, by William A. Marti.
- Robert Moser, by Daniel W. Camp, Sr.
- Wilford H. "Sam" Neeb, by Mr. and Mrs. Howard S. Ames.
- Hazel Oechler, by Bessie Kingsley.
- Esther Odey, by Gayle Roper.
- Gerrude Perry, by Mr. and Mrs. James T. Perry.
- Ruth Raudebush, by Judge and Mrs. John W. Potter.
- George Richardson, by Ruby Kime.
- Irving J. Rogers, by Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Meyers; Mr. and Mrs. Charles Stahl.
- Monica Joy Roth, by George Abrass.
- Florence Rowell, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas A. Baither.
- Husband of Mrs. Irving Rudinger, by Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Basch.
- Frieda Sandusky, by Virginia R. Smith.
- Herbert Schnabel, by Madeline Levinson.
- Carl Schroeder, by Joanne M. Roberts.
- Marvin Seerius, by Netha Schmidt.
- Walter Seun, by Barry A. and Cathy S. McEwen.
- Louis and Virginia Shinevar, by Mr. and Mrs. James T. Perry.
- Lloyd Snyder, by Muriel Widmer.
- Donald Stone, by Al and Wanda McEwen.
- Eugene Taylor, by Mr. and Mrs. Richard Whitbeck.
- Jacqueline Thomas, by Millie and Paul Richards.
- Raymond J. Trabbic, by Mrs. Mildred J. Trabbic and Family.
- Eddie Turner, by Barry A. and Cathy S. McEwen.
- Pearl Vergies, by Mr. and Mrs. James R. Mitchell, Jr.
- Velma Von Ewegen, by Mr. and Mrs. Harold Alexander and Family.
- Caroline Westrup, by American Kosciusko Paderewski Senior Citizen Club; Mr. and Mrs. Chester Kolakowski; Chris Reineke, Romaine Sawowy, and Darlene Worsell; Mr. and Mrs. Robert Schnitky.
- Helen Witkowski, by Floyd Augustyniak; Leonard and Joyce Augustyniak; Mr. and Mrs. Norman Augustyniak; Richard and Bettie Augustyniak; Gene and Lois Davis; Esther and Stanley Jankowski; Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Swizla.
- Shirley Yeary, by Geraldine Emmons; Rod and Lois Henning.
- Helen Zielinski, Mrs. Edna Zielinski.
- Helen Zienek, by Rose and Bob Watkins.
- Birthday of Mrs. Hazel Drennan, by LaVerne Bischoff.
- 45th Anniversary of Yale and Ruth Feniger, by Leila Penhutter.
- Sister of Mrs. Alan Goldberg, by Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Basch.
- Mr. Milford Meyers, by Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Basch.
- Dr. James Ravin, by Mrs. Henry L. Harman.
- Kirsten Timmins, by Dr. and Mrs. Sherman Timmins.
- Mike Werner, by John F. Werner.

Bequests

Hazel Ansell Estate
Orelia Asmus Estate
Pauline Fendler Estate
Dorothy Rankin Estate
Clarence and Daisy Hickok Estate
Willis Stone Estate
Margaret Walzy Estate

In Honor Of

Birthday of Mrs. Hazel Drennan, by LaVerne Bischoff.
45th Anniversary of Yale and Ruth Feniger, by Leila Penhutter.
Sister of Mrs. Alan Goldberg, by Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Basch.
Mr. Milford Meyers, by Mr. and Mrs. Lewis Basch.
Dr. James Ravin, by Mrs. Henry L. Harman.
Kirsten Timmins, by Dr. and Mrs. Sherman Timmins.
Mike Werner, by John F. Werner.

Circus Day

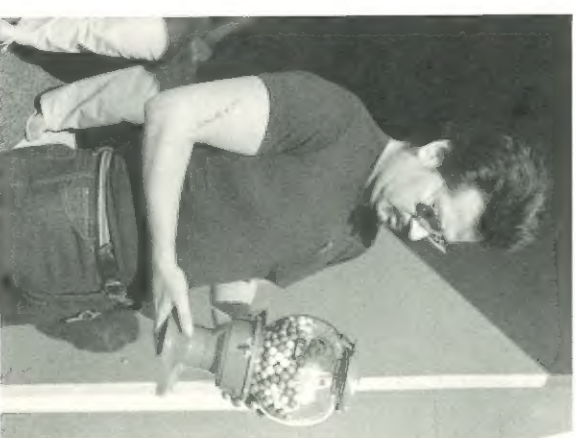


Shriner Nevil Medlock came from Findlay, Ohio, to perform in this year's Shrine Circus May 4 in Toledo's Sports Arena. His clowning drew varied reactions from this group of spectators: Elma Ware, next to his elbow, and Dorothy Robran, beside her, seemed startled. Ten-year-old Nicola Parrish and her brother, Steven, 5, apparently had other matters to discuss. Jon Whiakker, bottom left, was absorbed with information he was receiving through his headphones while his wife, Sharlene, beside him, was paying attention to Mr. Medlock.

Odd-Items Sale Pumps Cash into Operating Budget

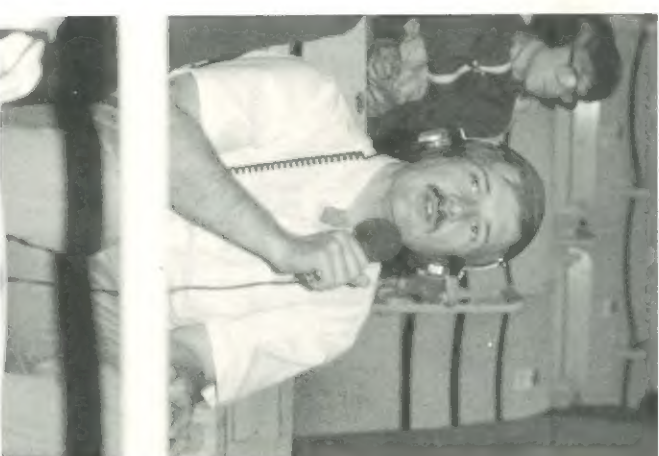
An electric organ, upright piano, two gumball machines, a wooden bird cage, assorted silverware and a wide variety of other items, many of them donated, raised nearly \$1,500 in a two-day garage sale here last month.

The sale, a repetition of an equally successful one last year, will be an annual event, according to social services coordinator Vicki Obee, who organized it.



Junk or treasure? That depends on your point of view. Gum-ball machines are scarce nowadays; Toledoan Louis Lopez considered the one he found at the garage sale a bargain at \$15.

Air personality Rich Hoffer of WSPD Radio, Toledo, donated his announcing services to bring blind circus guests a step-by-step account of all the action under the Big Top.



Elderly Face Increasing Threats to Sight

More than half of the new cases of blindness reported in the United States occur among the elderly.

• Low vision is outweighed as a handicap among the elderly only by heart disease and arthritis.

• Thirty per cent of all Americans over 65 are believed to have cataracts in some degree, although many never reach the point where the individual is considered blind.